

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 SAB-01 SS-15 NSC-05 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02

SAM-01 /070 W

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R 100805Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8189

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

UNCLAS TEL AVIV 5752

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: US, IS, OTRA (MARCUS, YOEL)

SUBJ: VISIT OF HAARETZ CORRESPONDENT YOEL MARCUS TO U.S.

GENEVA FOR DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY SAUNDERS (MEPC)

1. HAARETZ POLITICAL COMMENTATOR YOEL MARCUS INFORMED EMBASSY SEPTEMBER 9 OF HIS PLANS TO VISIT GENEVA (SEPTEMBER 18-25) AND UNITED STATES (SEPTEMBER 26-OCTOBER 15) IN CONNECTION WITH A SERIES OF COLUMNS HE WILL BE WRITING ANALYZING PRESENT STATE OF US-ISRAELI RELATIONS AND OUTLOOK FOR FUTURE. MARCUS ASKED FOR EMBASSY HELP IN FACILITATING HIS ACCESS TO KNOWLEDGEABLE U.S. OFFICIALS, STRESSING HIS INTEREST IN SUBSTANTIVE RATHER THAN "PRESTIGE" CONTACTS. WHILE IN U.S., MARCUS WILL ALSO SPEND A WEEK AT UN IN NY. MARCUS ALSO EXPRESSED SPECIFIC INTEREST IN OPPORTUNITY TO SEE SAUNDERS WHILE HE WAS IN GENEVA DURING WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 18-25.

2. WE HAVE GIVEN MARCUS COUNTRY DIRECTOR SMITH'S NAME AS WASHINGTON POINT OF INTEREST AND SAID, WITHOUT COMMITMENT OF ANY KIND, THAT WE WOULD INFORM SAUNDERS OF HIS GENEVA PLANS.

3. AS DEPARTMENT IS AWARE, MARCUS HAS BECOME AN INCREASINGLY WIDELY READ JOURNALIST AND WE BELIEVE HIS THOUGHTFUL ARTICLES REPRESENT

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A GENERALLY POSITIVE INPUT INTO THIS ISRAELI POLITICAL PROCESS.

WE BELIEVE THAT ANY EFFORTS MADE TO GIVE MARCUS THE KINE OF
EXPOSURE HE DESIRES WILL YIELD EXCELLENT DIVIDENDS.
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